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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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7 IRIDEX CORPORATION,

8 Plaintiff,

9 v.

10 QUANTEL MEDICAL, S.A., et al.,

11 Defendants.

Case No.18-cv-00153-SVK

**ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S
ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION TO SEAL
EXHIBIT A TO COMPLAINT**

Re: Dkt. No. 6

12 Before the Court is Plaintiff Iridex Corporation's ("Iridex") Administrative Motion to File
13 Exhibit A to the Complaint Under Seal ("Motion"). Iridex seeks to seal certain business and
14 financial information that is attached to its Complaint.

15 Courts recognize a "general right to inspect and copy public records and documents,
16 including judicial records and documents." *Kamakana v. City & Cnty. Of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d
17 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006) (quoting *Nixon v. Warner Communs., Inc.*, 435 U.S. 589, 597 & n.7
18 (1978)). A request to seal court records therefore starts with a "strong presumption in favor of
19 access." *Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1178 (quoting *Foltz v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 331 F.3d
20 1122, 1135 (9th Cir. 2003)). The standard for overcoming the presumption of public access to
21 court records depends on the purpose for which the records are filed with the court. A party
22 seeking to seal court records relating to motions that are "more than tangentially related to the
23 underlying cause of action" must demonstrate "compelling reasons" that support secrecy. *Ctr. For
24 Auto Safety v. Chrysler Grp.*, 809 F.3d 1092, 1099 (9th Cir. 2016). For records attached to
25 motions that re "not related, or only tangentially related, to the merits of the case," the lower
26 "good cause" standard of Rule 26(c) applies. *Id.*; *see also Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1179. A party
27 moving to seal court records must also comply with the procedures established by Civil Local
28 Rule 79-5.

1 Here, the “compelling reasons” standard applies because Exhibit A to the Complaint is a
2 part of the pleadings on which this action is based. *See In re NVIDIA Corp. Derivative Litig.*, No.
3 06-cv-06110-SBA, 2008 WL 1859067, at *3 (N.D.Cal. Apr. 23, 2008) (applying “compelling
4 reasons” standard to request to seal complaint). Having considered the Motion, the Declaration of
5 William E. Mosley in support thereof, the pleadings on file, the Court finds compelling reasons to
6 seal Exhibit A. The Motion is hereby **GRANTED**.

7 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the following materials should be sealed and that
8 counsel for Iridex may file the following materials under seal:

Document	Text to be Sealed	Basis for Sealing Portion of Document
Ex. A to the Complaint	Entire Exhibit	Narrowly tailored to confidential business and financial information

11
12 **SO ORDERED.**

13 Dated: January 16, 2018

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16 SUSAN VAN KEULEN
17 United States Magistrate Judge